Energy, Efficiency, and Economics of LNG & L/CNG

Natural Gas Vehicle Technology Forum Dallas, TX

January 28, 2003

Dr. Jim Wegrzyn
Brookhaven National Laboratory



The Five E's of NGVs

- Energy Security: Fuel economy of 48.5 mpg and 10% alternative fuel will eliminate oil imports
- <u>Education</u>: Training, outreach, tiger teams, and codes & standards
- Environment: Meeting EPA's 2007 emission standards is critical
- Efficiency: 80% efficiency (up to the engine) and better than 34% engine efficiency
- **Economics**: Fuel cost (purchased price plus LUG), vehicle conversion cost, station cost

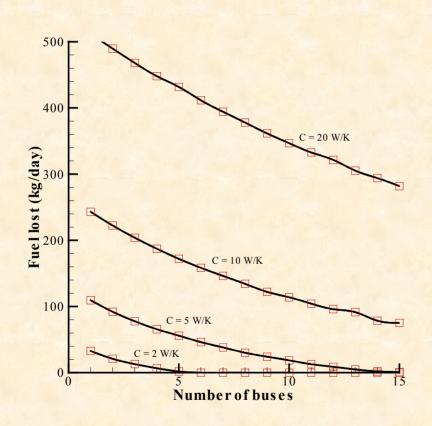


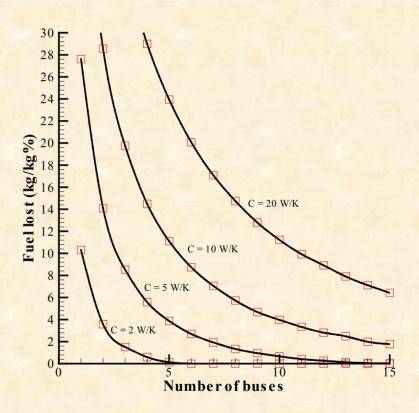
Features of LNG & L/CNG

- LNG's main advantage is its 2.5 times increased driving range over CNG
- LNG has the "use it or lose it" problem
- Since there is little risk with CNG, use it if it meets your needs
- L/CNG is not competition to CNG but offers additional refueling sites



An Example of "Use it or Lose it"

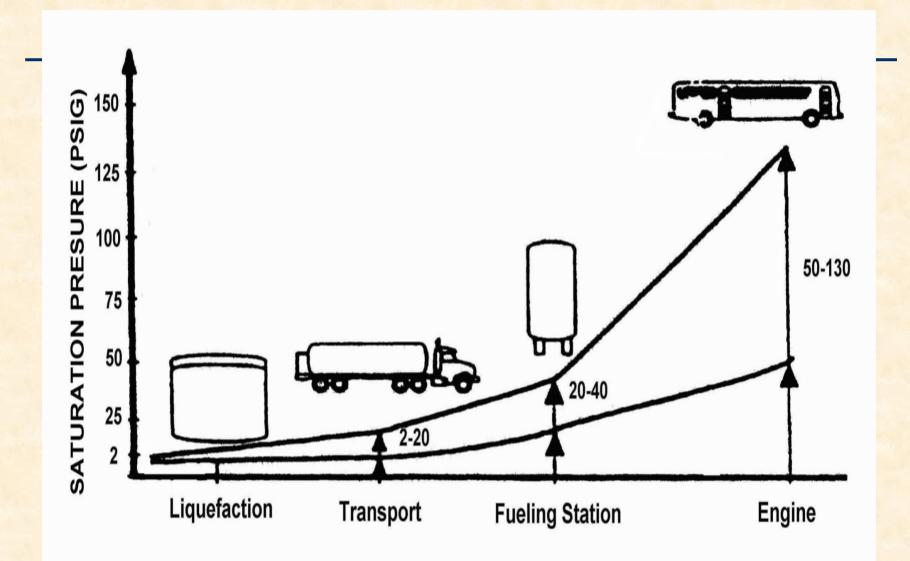




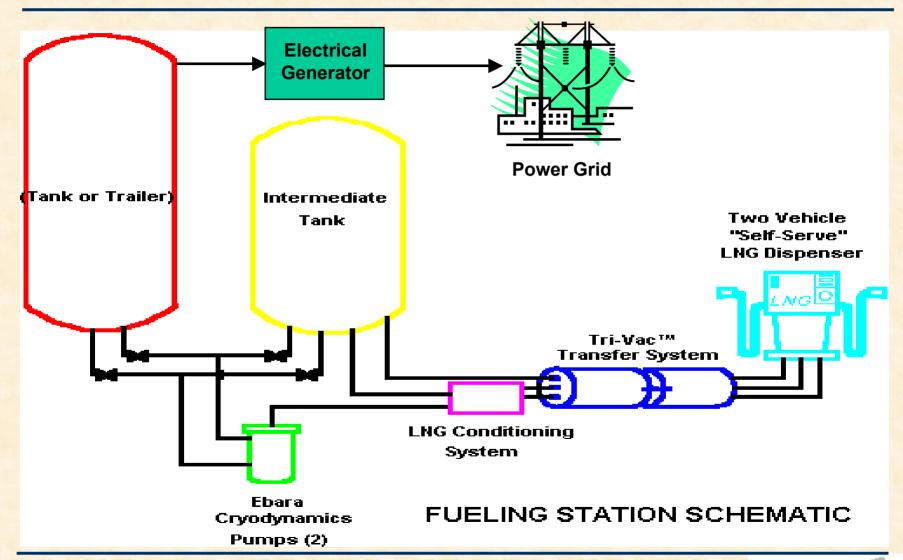
Fuel loss per day

Total fuel loss





CH-IV Refueling Station



Economics of LNG

■ Capital Cost: Station and vehicle conversions



■ Operating Costs: Fuel, maintenance, labor, power, and atmospheric vent (~10%?)

■ Future Needs:

Natural gas generator set to eliminate atmospheric vent and for thermal management

■ Conclusion:

The elimination of atmospheric venting of natural gas from vehicles and stations will improve the economics of LNG much more than a couple of percent improvement in engine efficiency. It is cost per vehicle mile driven that is compared to diesel fuel.

